



Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads **2025 Legislative Agenda**

Public transportation is a driver of economic prosperity and well-being across Hampton Roads. Hampton Roads' ability to thrive depends significantly on a well-performing transportation system, including robust and reliable public transportation. It is vital to numerous regional priorities, including supporting Hampton Roads military communities and enhancing quality of life for service members and their families and attracting and retaining a diverse workforce. Residents throughout the region deserve access to safe, reliable, and affordable transportation options. Transit connects communities and businesses across the region, and improves access to all the region offers, from jobs, healthcare, and retail destinations to recreation, education, and workforce training opportunities. Each service improvement across our multimodal system produces new connections, greater reliability, and more convenient trips.

The Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads (TDCHR) has outlined the following legislative and public policy priorities, with the goal to maximize opportunities to advance HRT's vision and mission.

Federal Priorities

- The TDCHR supports the IIJA funding levels for public transportation formula and discretionary funds and will pursue all appropriate federal discretionary grant opportunities. As Congress begins consideration of the next multi-year surface transportation bill, HRT will advocate for retaining the gains in funding achieved in IIJA for all transit programs, including Section 5339 bus programs.
- The TDCHR also supports the continuation of congressionally directed spending programs through annual appropriations as a valuable source of needed funding for HRT capital projects and an effective way for our Congressional delegation to directly support our regional multi-modal infrastructure and services.
- The TDCHR will advocate for full funding of the Capital Investment Grants (CIG) Program – an important source of funding for major fixed guideway capital projects – as HRT pursues expanded service to provide broader regional benefits, including extension of The Tide light rail system and other high-capacity transit programs in the region.
- The TDCHR will advocate for policies and funding to support continued advancements in the use of transformational technologies, including non-diesel technologies, upgrades to trip planning and fare systems, real-time travel information systems, demand-response service and other innovations.

State Priorities

- The TDCHR supports policies to create predictable, adequate, and equitable funding across varying transit modes and regions throughout the Commonwealth. Sustainable funding is critical for reliable transit services that reduce customer exposure to service cuts and fare increases.
- The TDCHR supports the review and revision of statewide performance-based funding policies in order to avoid negative and disparate consequences to transit customers and systems and recognize varying social equity needs.

For more information, contact:

E. Noelle Pinkard, Esq.

HRT Organizational Advancement Officer

(757) 222-6000 x6517 • epinkard@hrtransit.org



gohrt.com